

opinion, and no sanction in the interests of the influential classes ; quite the contrary. The consequence is that the abolition of serfdom has thrown Russian society into chaos, and as yet reconstruction upon the new system has made little growth. In the United States the abolition of slavery was accomplished by the North, which had no slaves and enforced emancipation by war on the South, which had them. The mores of the South were those of slavery in full and satisfactory operation, including social, religious, and philosophical notions adapted to slavery. The abolition of slavery in the northern states had been brought about by changes in conditions and interests. Emancipation in the South was produced by outside force against the mores of the whites there. The consequence has been forty years of economic, social, and political discord. In this case free institutions and mores in which free individual initiative is a leading element allow efforts towards social readjustment out of which a solution of the difficulties will come. New mores will be developed which will cover the situation with customs, habits, mutual concessions, and cooperation of interests, and these will produce a social philosophy consistent with the facts. The process is long, painful, and discouraging, but it contains its own guarantees.

94. Arbitrary change. We often meet with references to Abraham Lincoln and Alexander II as political heroes who set free millions of slaves or serfs "by a stroke of the pen." Such references are only flights of rhetoric. They entirely miss the apprehension of what it is to set men free, or to tear out of a society mores of long growth and wide reach. Circumstances

may be such that a change which is imperative
can be accom-
plished in no other way, but then the period of
disorder and con-
fusion is unavoidable. The stroke of the pen never
does anything
but order that this period shall begin.
95. Case of Japan. Japan offers a case of the
voluntary reso-
lution of the ruling class of a nation to abandon
their mores and
adopt those of other nations. The case is
unique in history.
Humbert says that the Japanese were in the first
throes of internal
revolution when foreigners intervened.¹
Schallmeyer infers that

¹ *Japan and the Japanese*, 360.